

Washington, DC—Today, Congressman Olver announced that the Hurricane Irene Coalition, of which he is a member, continues its work to coordinate and expedite the recovery efforts of the federal government. The House Hurricane Irene Coalition is a bipartisan group of U.S. Representatives whose districts were affected by the storm. The coalition was formed to ensure that FEMA has the resources it needs to support the recovery effort, as well as to work in conjunction with FEMA and other federal agencies. The coalition will also serve as a resource for Members to help them support recovery efforts in their districts.

“It is important that we work with FEMA to ensure that the available resources get to the people and businesses that need them most as quickly as possible,” said Congressman Olver. “This coalition should help expedite and organize this process,” Olver added.

One of the coalition members, Congressman Christopher Gibson, has also introduced a bill – the Post-Irene Emergency Farm Aid Act. This bill would provide additional funding to emergency Farm Service Agency programs to help farmers in the affected areas recover. Thus far, the coalition has reached out through letters to Speaker Boehner, Minority Leader Pelosi, and Appropriations Committee Chairman Rogers to begin the process of coordinating funding for the clean-up.

The recovery from Hurricane Irene is estimated to cost billions. Devastating rain, flooding and wind claimed the lives of 44 people in 13 states.

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